

CLAIMS:

1. A method of defining entry points in an incoming data stream, the method comprising the steps of
 - (a) generating an entry point table;
 - (b) defining a first interval;
 - 5 (c) defining entry points in the incoming data stream, in which the entry points are defined at an equal distance from each other, equal to the first interval;
 - (d) storing the defined entry points in the entry point table;
 - (e) if the size of the entry point table exceeds a predetermined maximum size, increasing the first interval between the entry points to a second interval; and,
 - 10 (f) if the size of the entry point table exceeds the predetermined maximum size, determining new entry points having a mutual distance which is equal to that of the second predetermined interval.
2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first interval and the second
15 interval are time intervals.
3. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second interval is chosen to be twice as large as the first predetermined interval.
- 20 4. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the maximum size of the entry point table is determined by the number of entry points.
5. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the maximum size of the entry point table is determined by its total size.
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6. A method of splitting up a first data stream into a second data stream comprising the start of the first data stream, and a third data stream comprising the end of the first data stream, wherein a first entry point table incorporating a first group of entry points is

defined for the first data stream by means of the method as claimed in claim 1, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) selecting a second group of entry points from the first group of entry points, in which the second group of entry points refers to locations in the second data stream;
- 5 (b) forming a second entry point table comprising the second group of entry points;
- (c) selecting a third group of entry points from the first group of entry points, in which the third group of entry points refers to locations in the third data stream;
- (d) forming a third entry point table comprising the third group of entry points;
- 10 (e) determining an interval between the start of the third stream of audiovisual information and a first entry point of the third data stream; and
- (f) storing the interval, determined in the previous step, in the third entry point table.

15 7. A method of combining a first data stream and a second data stream to a third data stream, wherein entry points are defined for each stream by means of the method as claimed in claim 1, the method comprising the step of combining:

- (a) a first entry point table, associated with the first data stream, and
- (b) a second entry point table, associated with the second data stream, for forming
- 20 a third entry point table associated with the third data stream.

8. A record carrier comprising a data stream, wherein the data stream comprises entry points as defined by the method as claimed in claim 1.

25 9. A record carrier comprising computer-readable and executable instructions, wherein the instructions enable the computer to perform the method as claimed in claim 1.

10. An apparatus adapted to define entry points in an incoming data stream, the apparatus being further adapted to

- 30 (a) generate an entry point table;
- (b) define a first interval;
- (c) define entry points in the incoming data stream, in which the entry points are defined at an equal distance from each other, equal to the first interval;
- (d) store the defined entry points in the entry point table;

(e) if the size of the entry point table exceeds a predetermined maximum size, increase the first interval between the entry points to a second interval; and,

(f) if the size of the entry point table exceeds a predetermined maximum size, determine new entry points having a mutual distance which is equal to that of the second

5 predetermined interval.

11. An apparatus for reproducing information, the apparatus being adapted to

(a) read a data stream from a record carrier as claimed in claim 8; and

(b) reproduce the information which has been read.